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their protests regarding Poland; the treaty of Frankfort was May 10, not May 20; the German emperor's speech from the throne was delivered on March 21, not May 21; the date of Cavour's speech on Rome is March 27, not March 28, 1861; on page 788 the "treaty of neutrality of 1888" should be the "treaty of neutrality of 1884"; Ferry's ministry in France is given in one place as ending in March, 1884, and in another as ending in May, 1885, whereas the date should be March, 1885; on one page the uprising of the Herzegovinians is given as having taken place in 1860-61, in another the date is 1862; M. Seignobos is wrong in saying that the Powers compelled Turkey to withdraw entirely from Servia in 1862, she did not so withdraw until 1867; it seems misleading to speak of d'Azeglio as a poet and not mention his many other talents. Many of these errors are undoubtedly mere matters of proof-reading; and it is truly remarkable that the slips should be so few.

But the last word upon M. Seignobos' book must be a word of praise. As a source of information; as a stimulus to further thought and study; as a guide to the literature of nineteenth century history it will be a true *vade mecum* to the teacher and the scholar. That it will satisfy the wants of the unprofessional reader I cannot believe; but its failure from the point of view of readableness and artistic presentation need not detract in the least from its value as a work of scholarship and erudition.

CHARLES M. ANDREWS.

Bryn Mawr College.

Des Origines et de l'Etat social de la Nation Française. By H. SOUTIER. Pp. 520. Price, 10 fr. Paris: Giard et Brière, 1898.

France is a democracy, the development of which has been logical in the past and which needs but a few changes to make it ideal in the future. Such is the belief of the author of the work under review, four-fifths of which he devotes to substantiating the historical statement, while in the other fifth he outlines the changes necessary for the future.

The volume opens with a detailed consideration of the various racial elements which have combined to form the present French people, such as the Romans, the Franks and the Celts. We have much information regarding these races, but, in the author's opinion, this knowledge has been sought not to furnish a base on which conclusions may be built, but rather to provide an Atlas on whose shoulders a world of opinions already formed may be placed. Having maintained that none of the early migrations were properly

conquests, but rather the mingling together of peoples in which distinctness of race was soon lost, the author says the feudal barons had no claim to rule by inheritance over the nation, and that the feudal kingship was a rule of might rather than of right. As a result of foreign wars and industrial inventions the nobility lost its political importance, Courtrai and Agincourt clearly showing that the political greatness of France depended on her peasantry. The consciousness of this fact, aided by the intestine quarrels of the barons, naturally led to an absolute monarchy and the political equality of the masses.

Thus one-half of the race towards democracy was run. The remaining half was concluded by the Revolution of '89, bringing social equality, which, after retracing several backward steps, remains an accomplished fact. "There are left only personal inequalities and those of situation which it is impossible to suppress." Dangers, however, there are which threaten the continuance of democracy and, yet more, prevent the attainment of the social ideal. The return to aristocratic or monarchical government should be carefully guarded against, and by opposing in detail the arguments of writers favorable to those forms, the author strives to render his own position unassailable. The republic must continue and political equality made coincident with social equality.

The reforms advocated by the author for the realization of an ideal state are these: (1) The abolition of the Senate or the introduction of the right of appeal to the people in case of conflict between that body and the Deputies; (2) strict regulation of monopolies and great care in the granting of concessions regarding landholding; (3) no maintenance of property in land in one line of descent after four generations;* (4) a progressive tax on property other than land.

The third improvement is considered the most important. Land, it is said, has always been considered as public property and only granted to private ownership on condition of good use. If the large estates were divided, population would increase and production would be stimulated; while under present conditions France has not even kept pace with Prussia in agricultural improvement. In the author's words, a socialism is aimed at which shall be "neither a sacrifice of the individual to society nor society to the individual."

Although the work is interesting we can hardly consider it as a remarkable production. The author seems to commit the fault of

*The author does not insist on *four*, being willing to accept eight or even twelve generations.

selecting his facts to suit his theory quite as much as some writers of whom he complains. Many ideas are put forward which are suggestive, but we cannot agree, especially in view of recent judicial action, that France has already reached a position where details alone prevent the realization of an ideal democracy.

C. H. LINCOLN.

Philadelphia.

Area and Population of the United States at the Eleventh Census. By WALTER F. WILLCOX. Economic Studies. Vol. II, No. 4. Pp. 50. Price, 50 cents. New York: The Macmillan Co., 1897.

Density and Distribution of Population in the United States at the Eleventh Census. By WALTER F. WILLCOX. Economic Studies. Vol. II, No. 6. Pp. 70. Price, 50 cents. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1897.

Practical considerations lead to the division of Professor Willcox's study of the population of the United States into two sections. These really belong together and may be so treated in a review. The essay is designed as an introduction to the social statistics of the United States, but before taking up this topic, deals with the significance of statistics in general and of the place of the United States among the great nations of the world. The view of statistics which is here presented at once clearly and concisely, is one which has the hearty commendation of the reviewer, and upon which he has frequently insisted. The author regards statistics merely as the numerical study of facts, but believes that a consideration of the application of the statistical method to the concrete problems of population is, after all, the best way in which to impress upon the student the nature of the method and the care with which it must be exercised.

The determination of area, so necessary for a correct computation of the density of population, belongs to the geographer, but through a careful analysis of the available material for our own country, Professor Willcox shows that the statistician cannot always accept the geographer's statements without scrutiny. He establishes the fact that we are far from having an accurate knowledge of the size of the various counties, or even of the states, which compose our national domain.

This discussion is preliminary to a consideration of the accuracy of the second factor, which determines the density of population, namely, the number of inhabitants. This involves a brief discussion